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AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

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N. E. FARMER.

NOTICES OF FARMS—MINUTES BY THE WAY, &c.

Notice of the Farm of E. Phinney, Esq., concluded.

The orchard on this farm is equal if not superior to any we have seen. It contains from 400 to 500 trees, principally Baldwins, Russets, and Rhode Island Greenings. It produced a very abundant crop last year, but this year there is scarcely an apple upon it. It was planted somewhere about 14 or 15 years since. The soil is generally a light rich loam, upon a gravelly, and in some places a rocky foundation. The trees were taken from the nursery in autumn, and placed in trenches until the following spring. They were planted near the surface, and in many instances, upon the surface, without digging any holes, and the dirt placed upon the roots. The orchard is situated on a side hill, having a south and southeast exposure. Many of the trees were severely injured by the hard winters of 1835 and '36, which caused the destruction of some of them. Their places have since been supplied with young trees. The mice injured some of the trees a number of years since, by gnawing the bark, so that in some cases the trees were completely girdled, and to all appearance lost. An ingenious method was devised to save them. Having prepared some large scions, five or six of them were inserted in each tree below the wounds in the bark, and then connected with bark above by the common operation of side grafting: in this way the sap was conducted from the roots to the top and the trees saved. We saw some of the trees thus operated upon: the scions had increased to the diameter of 3 or 4 inches, and had nearly come in contact with each other: we should doubt, however, whether the trees would be long lived, as the old wood must be unsound, and an early decay must be the consequence. The trees appeared now as vigorous as any of their neighbors. The orchard has never been laid down to grass, but kept in constant cultivation. The trees are finely shaped, having been pruned with a skilful hand, and just high enough from the ground to work under without inconvenience: the trees are about two rods apart: in some places they nearly cover the ground. We do not remember how many barrels were gathered for the market last year, but the quantity was great. Besides this orchard there is another that has been set out only 2 or 3 years, of 2 or 300 trees, all of which are sweet apples, designed expressly for the swine. All the refuse apples are fed to the hogs, and considered much more valuable for that use than for cider.

The farm is abundantly stocked with pears, plums, peaches, grapes, &c. There are more than 2000 fruit trees of various sorts upon the place, and all have been reared and pruned by the hand of the proprietor himself.

One of the most pleasant sights is a trellis, 30 rods in length, covered with the Isabella grape, from which was gathered last year two tons of grapes, which found a ready sale in Boston market at 10 to 12 cents per pound. The crop was said not to be so heavy this year, but to us it appeared very great. There is also a small house where the more delicious foreign grapes are grown.

The plums had suffered severely from the curculio, and most of the trees had lost their fruit.—There is a disease upon the currant bush, which we have noticed in many other places as well as on this. The bush loses its leaves prematurely, and the fruit becomes withered and worthless. We have in vain sought for the cause. Can any of our readers inform us, and prescribe a remedy?—The vegetable garden is large and well stocked with every variety: what is not consumed in the family is marketed or fed to the swine.

Mr Phinney has taken great pains to improve his breed of swine, and probably there are none superior in the State. As we have a promise from him of a description of his pigs and piggery for the N. E. Farmer, we shall not enlarge upon this subject. He prefers a cross of the Berkshire and Mackey to any other, and most of his pigs for slaughter are of this description. He has the full blooded Berkshire, Mackey and other breeds, and mixes to suit himself. We noticed a sow lately imported from England, called the Essex half black: the hinder part of the animal is jet black, and the forward half white. There are some good points about her, and she may prove a valuable acquisition to his stock: not having recovered from her sea voyage, she does not appear now as she will after a few weeks of good keeping. There is an old sow here, quite an object of curiosity, (we do not recollect the breed,) that weighs 900 lbs., a monstrous overgrown animal: she had been turned out of her pen to enjoy her liberty a little, which she did not however, seem to appreciate much, as all the room she wanted appeared to be enough to turn round and lie down upon. She looks as though she might be the parent of a most numerous offspring, but we understood she was without issue, having apparently no inclination to form an intimacy with the other sex. The number of swine is about 140, the care of which employs one man constantly.

The barns and other buildings for the accommodation of stock are convenient and comfortable, with sufficient room for the hay and grain produced on the farm. About 100 tons of hay are cut annually, part of which is sold. For every ton of hay sold, one cord of manure is purchased. To improve the land and keep it in high tilth, it is necessary of course to manufacture a large amount of manure. This is done first by the hogs. The man who has the care of them is constantly employed at odd hours in furnishing them materials, such as meadow mud, peat, weeds, &c.: second, by sheep: in autumn 150 or 200 wethers are purchased from the droves, and fed through the winter: by March they are in good flesh and bring a high price, and pay well for their keeping; their yards being furnished with a plenty of mud and litter, when mixed by their excrements makes a rich compost: third—by the other stock and the manure purchased, which is carefully mixed with twice the quantity of meadow manure. One cord of this composition is considered about equal to one cord of stable manure alone.

In making our observations upon this place, we feel as if it was not in our power to do it justice, as we spent but a few hours upon it. Every part of it shows, that by science, industry and skill, it has been rendered worthy of being ranked among the first of well cultivated farms in New England, and its proprietor worthy of all praise for the laudable example he has set for the imitation of his agricultural brethren.

Notice of Improvements on the Farm of Col. Abel Moore, Concord, Mass.

The traveller who has been accustomed to pass from Boston to Concord by the old road or turnpike, has, without doubt, noticed the large tract of meadow lands southeast of the village, which a few years ago was an unproductive waste, or large portions of it, and still there remains much to be subdued; yet those who have an eye upon agricultural improvements, must have observed with pleasure, that every year encroachments have been made upon these unproductive grounds by the hands of the cultivator, and the land which was considered nearly worthless, producing nothing but alders, dogwood, branches, skunk cabbage and other useless trash, is now burdened with heavy crops of grass, corn, oats, &c.

Passing up the turnpike from Lexington to Concord, we were struck with the vast difference between that which had been subdued, and that which was in its natural state, as they were divided only by a ditch. Finding this part of the meadow belonged to Col. Moore, we called upon him, and were politely asked to look over his farm. He owns a large tract of this meadow, which with some dry, gravelly hills to the north, amounts to about 230 acres, all in one body. He informed us that he had 30 acres of reclaimed meadow, which for a grass or any other crop, he was not afraid to compare with any 30 acres in the county of Middlesex, that might be selected from one or a dozen different farms. This we thought to be a strong assertion, but from what we saw of his grounds, and the crop secured in the barn, cannot see how it is possible to obtain larger crops than he has. He cut last year from 84 rods of this meadow, by actual weight of well made hay, 3805 lbs., and is confident that he has taken this year at the rate of 4 tons per acre. He has also raised at the rate of 90 bushels of corn to the acre. We have never seen a more promising field of ruta bagas, or finer oats than were growing at the present time on his place. His meadows are thoroughly ditched, which were done without any expense to him, as the laborers were glad to do the work for the peat which they dug from them. The cuts are from 4 to 5 feet deep: the sides are sloped to the water and laid down to grass: the passage for the water is but about a foot wide; the ditches in this way are easily kept free, and the edges are not continually falling in. The drains are mostly open as there is no stone near to fill them, and the different sec-

tions are connected by wooden bridges. The manner of bringing the meadows into cultivation has been, after ditching to extract the bushes, paring the hammocks, turning the sod, and carting on gravel. His gravel and loam is near at hand: 4 loads to the square rod is spread upon the surface of the turned sod, to which is added a good dressing of compost, and the ground is ready after harrowing, for the grass seed or for any other crop.

Col. Moore has lately put up a commodious and substantial barn, 80 feet by 40, with 23 feet posts; which his increased crops have made necessary to erect, with a cellar under the whole, having solid split stone walls, and split stone supports for the cross timbers. The cellar has two entrances on the south of sufficient width to admit a cart: this is the most valuable part of the barn, as it affords ample room for manure; a fine warm apartment for his breeding sows in the winter; a secure place for his roots, and for his carts, plough, &c.

He has another barn devoted exclusively to grain; and another still for hay.

His wheat crop has succeeded very well this season: the variety raised, the Tea wheat.

Col. Moore has the Berkshire and Mackey pigs, and raises many of a mixed breed for sale, which bring a high price. Among his breeding sows, he has one that has raised nine litters of pigs, and never had less than ten at one time, and sometimes more, but always brought up just ten: she is now in a fair way to have the tenth litter, and it would be a great pity that she should have less than her usual number, or be less successful, so that it may be said, she has brought up 100 pigs at 10 litters; she ought then to be excused from further service.

We will forewarn those farmers who are about to improve their peat meadows and other grounds, that if they persevere they will be involved in some expenses which if they were neglected might be saved. We allude to the erection of barns for hay and grain and accommodations for cattle, &c. We have heard complaints from a number of good farmers on this score,—they say their barns are not sufficient for their increased products; that they have been adding from time to time a little piece or a small building, and now they find them inconvenient, and that they shall be obliged though reluctant, to "pull down and build bigger," that they may have room where to bestow their hay and their grains, &c. That nothing worse than this may befal them, is our hearty wish. J. B.

Mulberry Trees, Silk, &c.—The following sales of trees have been communicated to us, and may be depended on as being accurate:

At Carlisle, Pa., last week, a sale of 1000 trees was made at 50 cents each, taking every tree in the row, cash on delivery; 8000 were sold at Denton, Md. for 50 cents, another lot at 45, and one at 35; At Centreville, sales have been made at 30 and 60 cents; at Norfolk, Va., a lot of 70,000 were sold at 30 cents, the seller having the privilege of summer layering until the first of August; the buyer takes every thing on the ground in the fall, one foot high and over. In this city we know of one sale at 50 cents, and have heard of others as low as 37 1-2. There are buyers in the market purchasing trees for the west, yet the sales during the past week have not been very numerous. We have heard of various transactions, but are not well enough assured of their correctness to announce them in our price current. Growers are firm in their prices, and there is not the slightest disposition to take any less than was asked three weeks ago.—*Morris' Silk Farmer of Aug* 10.

American vs. Foreign Silk.—The extravagant fabrication which is being industriously circulated by some over wise gentlemen, that there is no merchantable silk reeled in this country, was a few days since adverted to in the presence of Mr Cheney, of Burlington. He replied that recently he had used in his factory about 4000 pounds of foreign silk, for which he paid an average price of $4 75 per pound. At the same time he was purchasing American reeled silk at *six* dollars a pound, on which he made a larger profit than on the foreign. Another gentleman was mentioned who sold his raw silk at six dollars a pound for all he could raise. It is becoming notorious to all who use sewing silk, that the American manufactured article is far superior to any foreign, and besides it is not saturated with the deleterious ingredients used by all foreigners to make the silk weigh more.—This substance usually composes 25 per cent. of Finisio's superior silk.—*Ib.*

From the Albany Cultivator.

MR. GARNETT ON THE APPLICATION OF MANURES.

(Concluded.)

My belief, founded on the facts already stated is, that all the fertilizing substances of manures are soluble in water, and will remain uninjured themselves and useless to plants until the solution begins, whether they be deposited *on* or *under* the earth's surface. I also believe that this solution is caused by every fall of rain, and is immediately absorbed by the subjacent soil, which absorption results from two causes; first, the principle of gravity, and secondly, the stronger attraction of the earth than of the atmosphere, for every substance in solution which constitutes the food of plants. Moreover, that the earth never parts with this food when thus absorbed, to any thing but the plants themselves; for it is *their* peculiar aliment, and not that of the atmosphere, whose existence. for aught we know to the contrary, is entirely independent of it, although its agency seems essential to the health and vigor of all plants. If this were not the fact, if, for example, the earth did give the best and greatest portion of this food to the atmosphere, or if it escaped from surface-spread manure, before gravity and attraction could impart it to the earth, then the evaporation which is supposed to be the medium of conveyance, and which is known to be constantly going on from the soil, would, in process of time, certainly render it barren, even without any cultivation whatever. Yet neither total nor partial barrenness is ever known to be produced by any other cause than incessant culture without manure. That evaporation does take off something from manure while in a moist state, is proved by the offensive smell which constantly exhales from it until it is entirely dry. This smell is excited by a gas which is said by some, to contain the most valuable portion of the food of plants; but admit the fact, where is the proof of this portion being lost? I say there is none. On the contrary, we have what I think a conclusive reason for believing that this food is immediately given by the atmosphere to the tops of plants, as more suitable to them than to their roots. My reason for this belief is, the result of the following experiment which I have known to be repeated several times. All the bark was taken off from around the body of certain young trees, in a ring about three inches wide, for the purpose in the first case which I saw, of ascertaining whether this process would not kill the tree. But to the surprise of us all, not more than a year or two elapsed, before that part of the body above the ring became obviously larger than the part below, and this difference in size increased every year afterwards, as I had frequent opportunities of noticing.

Another reason why I believe that manures act better if spread on the surface of land, than when buried under it in the customary manner, is, that in the first case, the rain water carries the dissolved substances no deeper than the roots of most of our cultivated plants always grow, unless they are forced out of their natural course; and there these substances remain fast held by the earth's chemical affinity, until the stronger attraction of the spongioles of the roots begins to act upon them. But in the second case, that is, where manure is ploughed under as soon as spread, all the food of plants contained therein, being placed at once quite as deep as their spongioles naturally grow, and this too, before the rains begin to dissolve it, the subsequent solutions caused thereby, necessarily sink still deeper, and generally beyond the reach of the plants for whose nourishment they are designed. In no other way can I account for the long noticed and invariable superiority of crops produced by surface-spread manure, to those produced by that which was ploughed in. To me there appears to be but this alternative, either to deny the facts already stated, which I myself have often witnessed, or to explain them, (if we must theorise on the subject at all,) in some such way as the one which I have just offered to your subscriber, and to such others of our brethren as may choose to examine it. Permit me further to add, that on this subject nature herself seems to offer us a useful lesson, if we were not too wise in our own conceits to be taught by such an instructress; for I know not a single exception to *her* practice of depositing on the earth's surface all the putrescent substances of every nature and kind which appear designed to preserve her fecundity.

In close connexion with this subject, there is one other matter on which I will take the liberty to express an opinion, although your subscriber has not asked for it. This is, in regard to the best state in which manure can be applied. So far as my own experience enables me to judge, an experience confirmed by that of many others in whose practical knowledge of the subject I have great confidence, I believe that the fresher it is the better; for in such state, so much less will suffice than in any more advanced stage of putrefaction, that time, labor and value are all saved in the application: while none of the alleged "*burning*" ascribed to the manures being "*too hot*," ever occurs, if the quantity used be lessened in proportion to its freshness. This injury to plants, if I mistake not, is always caused by excess in the quantity, and not by the *quality* of the manure we apply to them, although the two things are often confounded, and thereby contribute to the perpetuation of error in regard to the nature and operation of all fertilizing substances. There is not, I believe, an agriculturist of any experience in our country, who has not had frequent opportunities of witnessing numerous facts to prove the correctness of these opinions. But, as I before remarked, we are all vastly fonder of our own fancies, than of facts in opposition to them; and consequently pass all such

without notice, or, when too strong and obtrusive to be entirely disregarded, we spare no labor nor pains to force them, as far as we possibly can to subserve some previously conceived notion which our silly pride forbids us to abandon. This obstacle to the progress of all improvement, but especially in husbandry, is one of the most pernicious of our besetting sins; and but for this, it seems to me impossible that any controversy should still exist in regard to the best manner and state in which to apply manures to land. Two or three years, at most, would have been amply sufficient to establish the most beneficial practice, if all those whose special interest it is to ascertain it, would have diligently and impartially resorted to comparative experiments, accurately and assiduously made for the purpose, rather than to speculating and theorizing about it. But it can never be too late to make such experiments. Let me therefore, most earnestly but respectfully recommend to your subscriber who has done me the honor to ask my opinion, as well as to all others who may still have doubts on the subject, forthwith to commence making trials of the different methods of applying manures, and also of the different states in which it is applied. The opinions of experienced men are certainly well worth consulting, in regard to all matters connected with their respective trades, professions or callings; but we should never implicitly take them as guides for our own practice any longer than until we can have leisure to test their correctness by actual experiments. When a number of these concur in producing the same uniform result, it is a matter of very little comparative importance how others may endeavor to account for the fact, as the fact itself is the all important thing, especially in every practical art. But this war between speculation and practice, between nature's own coings and our fanciful ways of accounting for them, is destined, I fear, never to cease, so long as such a thing remains in the world, as pride of opinion. Let a man once commit himself so far, either in speaking or writing, as publicly to deliver what he considers an argument in support of his "ipse dixit," and there are a hundred chances to one that he persists in it to the day of his death.

In thus complying with your subscriber's request, I may perhaps have said more than either he or you expected or wished: If I have done so, I must rely for my excuse on the proverbial garrulity of old age, unless your own kind feelings will suggest a better.

I remain, dear sir, yours very respectfully,

JAMES M. GARNETT.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 24, 1839.

Dahlias—by Mr David McIntosh; var. Suffolk Hero, (extra fine,) Mrs Rushton, and Rival Sussex.

By Wm. Oakes, Esq.; twentyfive varieties—among them we noticed Red Rover, Sulphurea elegans, Countess of Liverpool, and Mrs Rushton.

By Col M. P. Wilder; Striata formosissima, Rival Sussex, Birmingham Victor, Maria Edgeworth, Reliance, Countess of Liverpool, and Prima Donna.

By Mr Warren, several specimens—some of them very good.

Messrs Hovey & Co., Striata formosissima (fine,) Ansell's Unique (fine,) Beauty of Kingscote, Sir Henry Fletcher, Purple Perfection, Premier, Lord Liverpool, Suffolk Hero (fine,) Mrs Rushton, Alpha, and Glory of the West.

S. Walker; Hero of Tippecanoe (fine,) Unique, Quilled Perfection, Premier, Glory, Sir Robert Peel, Don Carlos and William Cobbett.

Bouquets, by Messrs A. Bowditch, W. Kenrick, Jno. Hovey, Hovey & Co., Meller, Warren, and Walker.

China Asters, by Messrs Warren, Meller, Col. Wilder, and S. Walker.

Balsams, by Messrs S. R. Johnson, Warren, Alfred Hovey, Jno. Hovey, McIntosh and Walker.

Thomas Lee, Esq.; Hibiscus manihot.

Joseph Breck & Co.; varieties of China Pinks, three var. of Phlox Drummondii, varieties of Salpiglossis, Phlox acuminata alba, seedling Phlox, varieties of German Asters, twenty varieties Zinnia elegans, Nigella Romana.

Native plants, by E. Weston, jr., Esq., and Francis Parker; Penthorum segoides, Hypericum pabifolium, Cunila pulegoides, Hypericum Virginiaca (in fruit,) Aster miser, Polygala sanguinea, Gerardia maratima, Juneus effusus, Cistus Canadense, Mentha Borealis, Gnaphalium Polycephalum.

By Wm. Oakes, Esq.; Goodyera pubescens, G. repens, Collinsonia Canadensis, Lobelia cardinalis, Solidago juncea? Clethra alnifolia, Ranunculus reptans, B. filiformis, Apios tuberosa, Orchis Blephariglottis (bad,) Lechea racemulosa, Satix pedicellans, Eupatorium ageratoides, Corylus rostrata.

For the Committee,

S. WALKER, *Chairman.*

Voted, That the Welles Premiums for the best apples cultivated from seedling trees, be awarded on the second Saturday of January, 1840—and that the next set of premiums be established and declared at the same time.

First premium, $30; second, $20; third, $10.

To be not less than four dozen in each specimen.

VIRTUES AND VALUE OF THE MORUS MULTICAULIS.

This is an age of discovery and improvement, and there is no knowing what may yet be brought to light, respecting the value and virtues of the Morus Multicaulis. It was thought but a short time since that this noted tree was fit only for feeding worms for the production of silk: even for this purpose alone the value of the tree could hardly be calculated; but it appears that the public have had but faint conceptions of its worth. We now learn that the leaves make delicious pies, and excellent greens, as well as furnishing the best of fodder for cattle; and last of all, and not least, that they make first rate hyson tea! What next! We do not see the necessity now of troubling ourselves with feeding worms, or the useless expenditure for building cocooneries. Let the leaves be fed to our hungry children and superabundant population, in the shape of pies, puddings, greens, &c., and let it be washed down with good hyson tea made from the leaves, and sweetened with sugar, which can no doubt be extracted from the same, and what a crop of *silk* may we not expect! Think of the quantity that may be reeled from a hearty rugged (not ragged) boy, after a summer's feed! Silk growers will no longer need the bounty of the state: let the law be repealed forthwith. By the way, we have just had the thought strike us, whether the leaves may not contain valuable medicinal properties: if so, can they not be converted into pills which shall prove a sovereign remedy for *the* fever which seems to be raging with great fury throughout the land. Should this prove to be the case, who can estimate its worth? As for ourselves, we have doubled the price upon our own trees, and hope other growers will do the same.

We extract the following from the American Silk Grower, that our readers may not think we are wild. J. B.

It is amusing to see by the papers how many valuable qualities the Multicaulis plant is discovered to possess.

By the following it appears it makes tea equal to the best hyson. Mr Freas, the publisher of the Germantown Telegraph, has discovered that the leaves make delightful *pies*. It was before known that they made excellent *greens*—and for cattle *fodder*, superior to every other article. But the *tea*, make us the tea!

Morus Multicaulis Tea.—A very important discovery has been made at Augusta, Georgia, of the virtues of the Morus Multicaulis leaves. The Constitutionalist says:

"We were shown a sample of tea the other day put up in paper, which we pronounced on the *smell*, fine Hyson tea—but imagine our surprise, on making the inquiry (as good teas are scarce in this market,) where it could be obtained, when we were informed that instead of Hyson, it was prepared *Morus Multicaulis!* There was just enough for a *drawing*, so that we could not obtain a supply for a trial; we learn, however, from the individual who did make the experiment that it made good tea, and that if properly prepared, he thinks good judges could not detect the difference between it and the best Hyson. The way it was prepared was as follows: the leaves were in the first place cut into thin strips, then rolled up and put away in the shade to dry, after remaining in that situation some five or six days, they were placed in the sun for a few hours. If the Morus will make good tea, good bye to the silk fever, which at the present time is raging—good-bye to our China trade—and an independent fortune to our Morus Multicaulis planters, for their wild calculations will be more than realised."

The use of Sulphur in preserving plants from insects, is recommended by Dr Mease, in the Domestic Encylopedia. The recommendation is endorsed by the editor of the Cultivator in his last number. He states that dusted upon grapes, in the grape house, they have prevented mildew upon the fruit. "It is equally efficacious in the open ground, till the sulphur is washed or blown off. For many years, we have lost most of our early cabbages by a maggot which preyed upon the stem under ground. By mixing sulphur with the grout in which the roots of the plant are dipped before planting, the evil has been wholly prevented; and if the plants are plunged deep in the grout, so as to coat the base of the leaf stems, they are protected from the grub. If scattered upon the rows in young cabbages and radishes, before or after they are taken up, it would probably be efficacious of protecting both the tops and bottoms."

Cabbage Plants.—Wood ashes placed about cabbage plants will much improve their condition. Frequent hoeing will serve to keep the ground moist, and will help their growth.

Another Multicaulis Discovery.—Some one at the south has obtained a patent for manufacturing cigars from the leaves of the Morus Multicaulis; and, what is more wonderful the editors *puff* the cigars.—*Bost. Times.*

LOOK OUT FOR ANOTHER PANIC.

The New York Times gives the following statement of the amount of duties paid in the district of New York during the first quarter of 1838 and the first quarter of 1839:

1838,	$2,407,755 78
1839,	4,309,500 21
Difference,	$1,901, 744 43

Now, if we assume this as a criterion for the three coming quarters of the year, it will give an aggregate of $7,606 972 72, as the amount of duties upon foreign importations, paid in the district of New York, in 1839, over and above what was paid upon the like importations in 1838. This immense sum of seven and a half millions of dollars, the reader will bear in mind, is not the cost of the foreign articles we import, but merely the *duty* which is exacted by our laws on their introduction into our country. And if we consider that almost every foreign article not coming in competition with our own manufactures, is imported duty free, and that many other articles pay merely a nominal duty, we may with safety assume that the duties payable at the custom house do not amount to more than one-tenth of the cost of the foreign merchandize imported. We arrive, then, at this result, that the foreign goods imported into New York during the present year, will exceed in amount the importations of 1838, SEVENTYSIX MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!!

And who is to foot the bill?—who is to pay the balance? Here is an extra charge against us in a single port, of seventysix millions of dollars, in a great measure for articles which we can either produce within ourselves, or do without. We may boast of this as an era of commercial prosperity—we may boast that it fills the coffers of our national treasury—but we cannot conceal the apprehension that it is pregnant with future and direful evils to our country; that it is the prelude to another commercial panic more dreadful in its effects than the one from which we are just recovering. Really, we are getting commercially mad. Like the reckless spendthrift, we are cumbering our patrimonial inheritance, entailing upon our posterity a ruinous debt, and compromiting our independence as a nation, from a vain ostentation of buying what we do not want, or what at all events we are unable to pay for.

We repeat the question—By whom and how is this seventysix millions of dollars to be paid? Paid it must be, if we would sustain our character for honesty and fair dealing. The total amount of our exports is but a little over one hundred millions—some millions less than our imports of last year: and according to the data we have assumed, they are likely to fall short of the imports of the current year from fifty to a hundred millions of dollars. Our state stocks have, to the amount of one hundred and seventy millions, been already sent abroad towards paying old balances; some considerable portion of our bank stock has been employed for a like purpose; and, abstracting the exports of cotton, exclusively the production of the south, our exportations will not pay a tithe of the rapidly accumulating debt.

What does this state of things augur to our manufacturing and agricultural interests? This seventysix millions of foreign merchandize has and will be spread over our country, and must and will be sold, though at a sacrifice to the holders; and supplant, in no small degree, the sales of domestic goods. Our manufacturers will consequently become cramped; their business will be contracted; many mills be stopped, and many failures ensue. The evils to the agriculturist will be, the loss of the market; to the manufacturer, of his provisions and raw materials, a diminution in their price, and a participation in the evils of another commercial panic.

Our anticipations may not be realized; yet the facts upon which they are founded, are such as should put every prudent man on his guard—as should render him cautious of running in debt, particularly for foreign merchandize, and as should induce him, in all cases where it is practicable without a great sacrifice, to give a preference to domestic over foreign productions. The patriots of our revolution could forego the use of foreign goods, and their wives and daughters the use of their favorite beverage, tea, for their country's good. The sons surely have not so degenerated, as to be unwilling to adopt, in part, to *maintain* their independence, that policy which their fathers employed to *achieve* it.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Gideon B. Smith estimates that the number of Multicaulis trees throughout the country will not be more than one-fifth the number of buds planted out. There is no doubt that the failure of the buds to germinate has been general; and we think Mr. Smith's means of forming a correct estimate are as good as those of any other man in the United States. Nor is he one of those who would lend himself to the vile purpose of assisting to create fictitious impressions in view of playing into the pockets of humbuggers and speculators. But we advise those who think of commencing the silk business next year, not to make contracts for multicaulis trees till after they have ceased growing the present season. Whoever buys trees yet to be delivered, assists in sustaining the present humbug prices. We are earnest advocates of silk culture, but buying and selling trees merely, is not feeding worms and making silk. There are three classes of men in this country who style themselves silk culturists—the humbuggers, the humbugged, and the actual producers of silk. The two former are displaying at present more zeal in their operations; but the latter is laboring more honestly, and will in the end, we trust, be more successful. The genuine friends of silk culture should discriminate between these classes.—*Franklin Farmer.*

THE PROPERTIES AND USE OF SOIL AND SUBSOIL.

Although it has been shewn that there is an intimate connexion between the nature and properties of the soil and those of the subsoil upon which it rests, yet we would wish it to be understood that the nature and quality of the materials of which the soil is composed, has not so much to do with its productiveness, as the mere mechanical mixture of its parts, by which it is brought into such a state of friability as to enable it to retain moisture in dry seasons, and give off by filtration its redundant moisture during a continuance of wet weather. When soils are not naturally in such a state of friability, they might be made so artificially by a proper admixture of clay, if too light or sandy; and by an admixture of sandy matter, when too strong and adhesive.

Silicious sandy soils soon decompose the manure bestowed upon them, which is carried off by water and evaporation.

These are called hungry soils.

Soils on a dry porous subsoil are more easily dried by evaporation than when the subsoil is clay or marl.

A dry, light, sandy soil on a clay subsoil, is more productive than on a sandy, gravelly subsoil, and it also supplies the means of its permanent improvement by mixing some of the subsoil with the soil.

The best constituted soil is that in which the earthy materials, the moisture and manure are properly associated, and on which the decomposable vegetable or animal matter does not exceed one-fourth of the weight of the earthy constituents.

Putrefaction goes on very slowly in strong adhesive clays, while in sand and gravel the process is very rapid. In quick lime it is more so than in sand, but carbonate of lime or effete lime retards the process of putrefaction more than sand or clay. All earths have an affinity for, or the power of, retaining the gas or effluvia from the fermentation of animal and vegetable matter which takes place on or near their surface.

None of the primitive earths, when pure or unmixed with others, are capable of supporting vegetable life; they are neither convertible into the elements of plants nor into any new substance by any process naturally taking place in the soil.—When they are component parts of the soil, they merely act as mechanical agents for the support of the plant, and prepare a bed in which the roots sink and extend themselves for the purpose of fixing their position, thus forming a natural laboratory in which the decomposition of organic matter is carried on, and where it is reduced to its original elements for the reproducing of plants.

A soil that is formed of nearly equal parts of the three primitive earths, namely, sand, clay, and lime, with a mixture of decomposing vegetable and animal matter, imbibes moisture from, and gives it out to the atmosphere, and has all the principles of fertility which give life and vigor to the plants that grow in it.

The properties of a good soil should be so friable and porous as to permit the roots of plants to strike freely in every direction in search of nourishment, and to allow the superfluous water readily to pass off through the subsoil, but to be sufficiently tenacious to retain moisture for the support of plants when in full vigor.

Fertile soils must be composed of silicious sand, clay, and calcareous matter. "The proportion," Kirwan says, "where rain to the depth of twentysix inches falls per annum, is fiftysix per cent. of sand, fourteen of clay, and thirty of calcareous matter." But these proportions depend entirely on the climate, the situation, the nature of the subsoil, and other local circumstances. More silicious sand is required in proportion as these circumstances tend to make the soil wet; and more clay, if they tend to make it dry.

The constituent parts of a fertile soil should bear a certain relative proportion to each other; but if any of these prevail or fall short to a certain degree, the soil becomes less productive.

The proper proportion of the primitive earths to form a productive soil under these circumstances, may vary from 50 to 75 per cent., of silicious matter; from 20 to 40 of clay or aluminous matters, and from 10 to 20 of calcareous matter.

According as the climate is moist, the soil should

be friable and porous: according as it is dry, the soil should be adhesive and retentive.

The most productive soil is that which is so constituted as to maintain such a degree of moisture in very dry and in very wet seasons, only to give a healthy supply of it to the plants. Such a soil gives to plants the means of fixing their roots deep to support them during the period of their growth, and allows them to ramify in every direction in search of nourishment where they may easily abstract the elements of vegetable life, without being injured by a redundant or a deficient supply of moisture, during any period of their growth. A constant supply of air and water is necessary to make and keep the soil permanently productive; when the soil is easily made and kept friable, it will also have the power of absorbing, retaining, and decomposing the water, the air, and the organic matter, which may be in its composition, by insensible fermentation; and give up a constant supply of the results of this decomposition for the growth of plants, either at seed time when they are merely vegetating, in summer when they are growing with the greatest luxuriance, and in autumn, when they are ripening their seeds for harvest.—*Morton on Soils.*

From the Franklin Farmer.

A LAZY FARMER.

It does not require much discrimination to know a lazy farmer; nor is it absolutely necessary to witness the personal habits of this peculiar variety of bipeds, in order to bestow upon him the title by which he is designated as above, on the authority of observing naturalists. "*By their* FRUITS *ye shall know them*," is as applicable to farmers as to any class of saints or sinners. A glance of the eye on a farm is enough to enable you to decide, and most correctly too, whether a lazy or industrious man lives there. If a lazy man, you will know it by the first objects presented to view; and you may look in vain to find any thing on the farm to counteract the first impression. Dilapidated houses—fences low and without stakes, surrounded by bushes, briers and weeds—rails thrown off and holes stopped with chunks—no gates, no draw bars, no fruit but blackberries—bad crops—the soil of the farm washed into the unstopped gullies, and the yellow bald spots on every slope making your eyes ache—poor, burry sheep and poorer cattle—in short, farm, houses, man, wife, children, servants, all present the same doleful and degrading aspect. And yet these fellows, wherever found, have a hundred excuses for their abominable laziness.

There are many such farmers; but Thomas Cleanfield, living on the banks of Elkhorn, is the best sample of all the lazy vagrants round about this region and the most fit subject to be held up in full gaze to public derision.

There is no doubt but the name Cleanfield, was very appropriately given originally to a very industrious farmer, who kept his fields in the cleanest and neatest order; but as time brings about a revolution in all things, names have also changed from their literal meaning and now convey ideas the very opposite of those derived from their original signification. I have been told that Mr Crookshanks has remarkably straight legs and that Mr Sheepshanks has a pair of very beefy legs; and I know neighbor White has a very dark complexion, while my neighbor Black is remarkable for the whiteness of his skin. The present Cleanfield, who is the subject of these remarks, is better known by the name of "Uncle Tom." Ask man, woman or child, "who lives at the big brier patch?" and the answer will be, "Uncle Tom;" and it has come to be a proverb among his neighbors, when they see a farm beset with blackberries to say "Uncle Tom lives here." If you should ask what kind of man he is, you will have for answer—a lazy, trifling, good-for-nothing, good hearted sort of a fellow.

Uncle Tom, like the rest of his kindred spirits, will give a thousand excuses for his laziness, and so promptly too that it would seem this petit lying was the only thing he had ever studied. He had set a day, (yes, fifty days,) to repair his fence, but the briers were so thick he could not get at it until they were cut down, which, if he was spared he would cut down next month. Next month passes away and the briers are still standing, and why? "My neighbor Lunary tells me I had better wait for the dark of the moon in August, and they will then die right out." The moon again and again disappears, and again and again revisits our hemisphere; and a hundred times since has she shone upon our antipodes to our exclusion, and for Thos. Cleanfield's benefit, had he availed himself of the time; but the briers are still standing and there they *will* stand, until the moon shall be everlastingly dark to Uncle Tom. What excuse now? "Why, to tell you the truth of the business, I was so busy about my corn, that to undertake the briers I was afraid I should lose my crop." Whether or not he has that confidence in Lunary which he pretends, is rather a matter of doubt; but be it as it may, Lunary's theory, although not practised by Uncle Tom, (for the best reasons, the time never finding him ready to operate,) is nevertheless regarded by him in the strongest light for excuse making. "Had my potatoes been planted in the dark of the moon in June instead of the light of the moon in May, Lunary says, they would have been as big as pumpkins, whereas as it is, they are no bigger than hickory nuts; and you have no doubt noticed on my farm, some rails bent up like a bow, and a great many rotten ones: Lunary says the bent rails were split in the new moon and the fence was laid in the decrease: which in the first instance accounts for their bending, and in the next, for their rotting."

Last summer, Uncle Tom's neighbors took possession of his blackberry patch, or rather field, and on one occasion, when the multitude had gathered together, he was seen among them with a rather sullen countenance; not because his neighbors were taking his fruit by the wholesale, for he was nowise selfish, and though a lazy dog, he was not a dog of the manger; but because he had been frequently derided in the most jeering manner by these very neighbors, about his blackberry patch. In all probability he would have grunted out his testy humor without saying a word and have left the pickers to their full enjoyment, had not one of them through politeness or something else, observed, "You have blackberries in great abundance, Mr Cleanfield." "But little thanks and less fruit comes to my share," replied Uncle Tom, somewhat gruffly; but having exhausted his spleen in that short reply, he continued in a jocular manner—"every body seems to be fond of blackberries, and yet there is not another patch in the neighborhood; and how easy it would be for every man to have his own, if some were not so lazy and others so stingy of a little ground." This remark, coming from the source it did, produced a roar of laughter so loud and boisterous, that a large flock of partridges took fright and were flushed from their covert. Uncle Tom was the first to speak, and being encouraged by the success of his last sally of wit, now renewed the onset with a degree of spirit and energy that far surpassed any effort he had ever before made, either mental or physical. "There! he exclaimed, "if it was not for me, of what use would be your guns, your dogs and your nets; you flock here in summer for fruit and in winter for game, to feed the dainty stomachs of your town gentry; and when the creek is low, and the poor fish have no chance to escape, you come down like famished cranes, with your gigs and your seines, and your dip-nets, skim-nets and drag-nets, until you have nearly destroyed the sport of the angler." Scarcely taking time to breathe—for be it known that Uncle Tom was descanting on a theme more interesting to him than any other in the affairs of huma life, and that he is as fond of angling as ever was Izak Walton, although destitute of his scientific knowledge, for science and skill have as little to do with his fishing as his farming; leaving every thing to chance, his want of success he ascribed to the moon, to the wind or to the weather—scarcely taking time to breathe, he continued—"Twenty years ago, so soon as your minnow touched the water, a twenty inch bass would seize it and you had nothing to do but take him from the hook and cast out another minnow with the same success; but now, since your Muckletonians* have come about, a man may fish all day and go home at night without ever having a nibble." Delivered of this speech, Uncle Tom felt lazy in every bone and muscle and forthwith departed, well satisfied with himself and all the world, except the Muckletonians, leaving his neighbors to enjoy his fruit and to pity the errors of education and the habitudes of early life which had ruined the usefulness and respectability of a man of naturally good parts, and transformed him into the indolent animal whose cognomen is prefixed to this prefatory chapter of his history. By your leave, Mr Editor, I mean at my leisure, to give several more chapters on Uncle Tom, in which, if I do not conduct him successfully through this world of briers and thorns, I shall at least hand him safely out of it, where I trust, he will be no more annoyed by the impertinent jests of his neighbors, and where, in the quiet and undisturbed enjoyment of his favorite sport of angling, which has been, by some pert coxcomb, described as "the management of a rod with a worm at one end and a fool at the other," he may be securely fenced from the intrusions of the Muckletonians.

B. S.

Hydrangea.—It may not be known to many of our readers that this flower, which is usually of a pink color, may be made to come out a beautiful rich blue, by the simple means of filling the pot or box with the swamp or bog earth. Common garden loam produces the pink. The discovery of producing the blue, was accidentally made by a friend of ours by whom it was sometime since communicated to us. We have repeated the experiment this season with good success.—*Watchtower.*

*Muckletonians—a society who held it right, fair and honorable to take fish in any way whatever, in opposition to the Tonolethians, who are bound by their sacred honor not to catch or eat fish unless they be fairly angled.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1839.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GEOLOGY OF MAINE. By C. T. Jackson, M. D. Agricultural Geology, pp. 173, and on.

We have already cursorily noticed this report, which does honor to the learning and industry of its author.—We mean to make some farther remarks upon it, premising, however, that, situated as we necessarily are, we can do nothing like justice to the author, ourselves, or the important subject treated. Constantly changing place, without any authorities for reference other than what an imperfect recollection may supply, snatching an hour when we can get it, writing where we can and as we can, and liable to innumerable interruptions, incompatible with the proper examination of any important subject, we have strong claims upon the candor of our readers, and shall attempt nothing more than to throw out such suggestions for the consideration of the inquisitive as have occurred in the hasty perusal of this, report.

The author of this report may be assured, likewise that by none are his labors more highly appreciated than by ourselves; and if we fail to be convinced by his statements, it will be certainly from no want of personal respect for his authority, but simply because he has not made out his case—because of the deficiency of proof in the matter which he labors most.

Geology and Chemistry have yet to perform important services for agriculture. Yet long experience and observation in all matters of physical science, compel us to moderate our expectations of any extraordinary and sudden results. The chemical analysis of soils will help us to approach the knowledge of the methods by which they may be improved, their particular deficiencies supplied, and their superfluous redundance of certain ingredients corrected; but in the present state of science, it will do little more than help us to *approach* this knowledge. It is one thing to determine by chemical analysis the particular ingredients in certain soils, and quite another to ascertain their particular mode of operation when combined: and under the action of various exernal influences of air, light, heat, motion, et cetera, by which they are continually acted upon. The triumphs of chemical science are immense, and may be pronounced magnificent; but compared with what remains to be done, the science even in its improved condition, is merely the first step (*premier pas*) of infancy; it is merely the admission of a few rays of sunlight through a crevice into a subterranean cavern; it is like attempting to sound the middle of the ocean with a skein of thread.

In a late number of the Cultivator, of which we had merely an accidental* glance, the learned editor is pleased to say that he hopes the time will soon come when the science of vegetable food and digestion will be understood as well as the science of animal digestion. We quote from memory merely, what we understood to be the sense, not the words. Now we say that that time has already arrived. We understand vegetable digestion as well as we understand animal digestion; that is, we do not understand either of them at all. We beg leave fully to explain what we mean. The physiology of man and of vegetable substances is a highly improved science. Much has been ascertained; and the labors of many distinguished anatomists and botanists have thrown a flood of light upon it. But there are secrets in respect to it which human sagacity seems as incapable of penetrating, as the human eye is incapable of looking through a block of granite. The experiments and observations of Dr Beaumont, who was favored with such rare opportunities of looking into the human stomach, and observing the action of the juices or fluids of the stomach upon the substances taken into it, are exceedingly curious and instructive, and of great practical utility. But, after all, the secret is not reached; the secret of digestion and nutrition is not even approached, nor even become matter of rational conjecture. The food taken into the stomach is dissolved by the operation of the gastric juice upon it; some in shorter, some in longer time: an effervescence occurs; a solution and separation of particles takes place; but this is a small part of the process. But as to the remaining steps by which it is converted into blood, flesh, bone, sinews, hair, nails, &c. &c., and by which life itself is sustained, where is the human mind capable of producing even a plausible conjecture? The science of vegetation is reached to this same extent and no farther. When man is able by any conceivable artificial process to form one drop of blood, to compact one ounce of bone, or to frame or to color a single flower or leaf, then and not until then shall we say that the processes of animal and vegetable digestion are understood. It is the same with other branches of science. The immense discovery of Newton, the noblest triumph of philosophy—next in our humble opinion, (ridiculous as it may seem to any,) to the discoveries of Phrenology, of the great principle of gravitation, is comparatively a very small advance in science. That this principle prevails throughout the material creation as far as it comes under human observation; that it operates with a force proportioned to the quantity of matter contained in the bodies attracted, and to the squares of the distances which divide them; and that in the planetary system its effects are counteracted by another and opposite impelling power, are matters of perfect demonstration and of the most exact calculation even to portions of a second of time; but after all, in what this force consists, and how it operates, so that an atom of matter on earth has its proportionate share of influence upon the remotest bodies in the great system of the material universe, are matters utterly irrecognisable by man's intellect, and the solution of which the giant mind of Newton was as incapable of solving as that of the infant child.

This barrier to the progress of knowledge, however, which now seems impenetrable and impassable, should not discourage us, nor deter us from persevering and indefatigable attempts to go farther. We may advance slowly, but every advance gives the power of going farther; and every gain in physical science, however small, is a great gain to man's improvement and comfort.—The practical arts of life have made immense progress under the improvements of chemical science. Agriculture has already been a great gainer. The careful analysis of soils may presently lead to the most direct modes of improving them. But what we are chiefly in danger of is, of arriving at general conclusions too hastily and holding them too confidently. Every thing therefore, the demonstration of which is not incontrovertibly established, (and there are not many things of this description,) should be regarded as open to farther inquiry; and especially under the light which actual experiment may throw upon it.

We know that the intelligent and inquisitive mind of Dr Jackson will acquiesce in these views; and therefore we shall compare in another number the facts which he has given in respect to the necessity and utility of the carbonate of lime in soils, in order to raise grain crops, with his own theories on this subject. He has distinctly stated (page 123) that "an imperfect or blighted product is sure to follow the planting of this grain (wheat) upon soils destitute of lime; while certain districts where the soil contains this mineral, are always favored with luxuriant and heavy crops. This is one of the settled points in agriculture."

Now we frankly avow ourselves favorably inclined to this belief, somewhat modified however in the universality of its application. Further we have no theory to establish on the subject. But we shall examine hereafter how far the facts accumulated in the report support this position. H. C.

*We say accidental, for we are so unfortunate that we cannot get this paper for love or money; we do not know whether through the fault of the Post Office or what. We should be happy to pay a double subscription, if that would bring it H. C.

SALT HAY.

The tide fields of the maritime parts of the State, that is the salt marshes, are now covered with laborers busily occupied in securing their crops, which come for taking. Whatever improvements may be effected upon these grounds, it cannot be denied that scarcely any are attempted; and large tracts of them remain precisely in the condition in which they have been since the settlement of the country. It is not so however universally. The only improvement which they seem to admit of, while they are continued in salt marsh, is that of draining. This is done generally at a distance of two rods apart; the ditches, if made three feet wide at first, will soon become by the settling of the meadow contracted to a small space, and the effect of this draining is, first, the consolidation of the whole meadow; and next, the speedy removal of the tide, which, where it is suffered to stand as it will in hollow places on meadows not drained, destroys the grass. Where these hollows have become deep, it is advisable to fill them with the materials thrown out of the ditches. Where this is not the case, these materials may be carried into the barn-yard or styes, and will form a valuable part of the compost heap. The effect of this drainage, where it has been well executed, has been to double, in some instances to quadruple the crop. It is not however in all cases equally advisable. Where the soil of the marsh is not deep, as near the margin of salt meadows, and by ditching, the hard subsoil, whether of sand or gravel or clay, is soon reached, this drainage is not perhaps advisable; at least some experiments render its utility doubtful. But where the mud is deep and the subsoil is not reached by a ditch of three feet in depth, the drainage cannot be too thorough. H. C.

SALT FOR KILLING WHITE WEED.—When the white weed has not become too plenty upon the farm it can be eradicated and its spread prevented by a little care and attention, and "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Many who have small patches upon their farms dig up all they can find, but still some of the roots are left and spring up the next summer to the no small annoyance of the farmer who supposed that he has rid himself of the pest. Mr L. Whitman, of this town, informs us that he followed the plan of digging until he was tired of it, for there would always some of the roots escape and show themselves the next year in spite of him. He then prepared a strong solution of salt in water, and poured it upon spots infested with the white weed. This effected a cure. If you have any of this weed beginning to show itself on your premises, *pickle* it down.—*Maine Farmer.*

ERRATUM.—In Mr Duroy's communication on "Beet Sugar Manufacture," page 54, 2d column, 17 lines from bottom, for "except a gum or mucilage," read, exempt from gum or mucilage.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, August 26, 1839.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market, 390 Beef Cattle, 70 Stores, 20 Cows and Calves, 4000 Sheep, and 350 Swine. About 100 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Prices have declined, and we reduce our quotations. First quality, $8 25 a $8 50. Second quality, $7 50 a $8 00. Third quality, $6 50 a $7 00.

Stores.—We omit prices.

Cows and Calves.—We notice sales at $30, $38, $45, $46, and $60.

Sheep.—About the usual prices were obtained. We quote lots at $2 25, $2 50, $3 00, $3 50, and $3 75.

Swine.—Sales were quite dull, at the prices obtained last week. Several lots were sold at 6 for sows and 7 for barrows. One lot, nearly all barrows, 6 1-2. At retail 8 for sows and 9 for barrows.

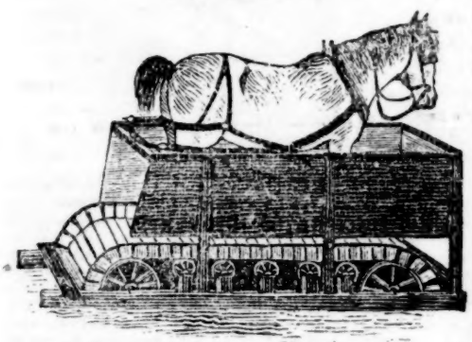
THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending August 25.

August, 1839.		5 A.M.	12, M.	7, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	19	56	84	72	E.
Tuesday,	20	63	86	74	S. E.
Wednesday,	21	64	87	76	W.
Thursday,	22	65	87	74	S. W.
Friday,	23	68	90	75	S.
Saturday,	24	70	85	73	E.
Sunday,	25	68	84	74	N. W.

Hale's Patent Horse Power and Patent Threshing Machine.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale this valuable machine and feel great confidence in recommending it as the best machine now in use. It will thresh from 75 to 100 bushels per day in the best possible manner. The horse power is calculated to propel any kind of machinery, is very simple in its construction, occupies but the small space of nine feet by two, and can easily be transported from one place to another, and when combined with the Threshing Machine it forms the most superior article for the purpose ever invented. They can be supplied at short notice at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store.

August 23.

TO WOOL GROWERS.

For sale a full blood Leistershire Ram, 3 years old this spring; was imported into this country in May, 1838, by the present owner. This ram is particularly valuable to raisers of sheep, as he is very large and of beautiful proportions, and produces extraordinary long wool of the best quality. Apply to JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

August 21. 4tis

BEET SUGAR.

The subscriber offers his services for the manufacture of Beet Sugar, in or out of the State, if application is made early. M. DUROY.

Boston, August 21.

A GARDENER WANTED.

One who understands his business and has good habits. Inquire of Mr BRECK, Agricultural Store. P. C. B.

August 7.

MECHANICS' FAIR.

At Quincy Hall, Boston, September 23, 1839.

The public are reminded that the Second Exhibition of of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, for the encouragement of Manufactures and the Mechanic Arts, will be opened in Quincy Hall, on Monday, September 23, 1839.

Mechanics, Artisans, and Manufacturers, who intend to offer articles for Premium or Exhibition, are particularly requested to give notice to the Secretary or Superintendent, at as early a day as convenient, specifying the articles intended to be offered.

Contributors are also reminded that all articles intended for Exhibition must be delivered to the Superintendent, WILLIAM WASHBURN, at Quincy Hall, on or previous to WEDNESDAY, September 18, accompanied by an invoice, and a *particular description* of all new and important inventions, or improvements in the articles offered.

Steam Power will be furnished to put in operation all Machinery, and the Superintendent will take particular charge of all Models offered for this purpose.

Competent Judges will be selected to view all articles presented. Premiums will be awarded to those deemed most worthy of that distinction.

Articles may be offered by Apprentices, who will have a division specially appropriated for their productions.

Tickets of admission will be furnished to all contributors.

GEO. DARRACOTT, President.

J. G. ROGERS, Secretary.

WM. WASHBURN, Superintendent.

August 28.

New York Urate and Poudrette Company.

Not incorporated but carried on by individual enterprise.

The manures are *not divided* among the Stockholders, as are those belonging to another establishment, *but sold*, to applicants, *for cash on delivery. Orders are supplied in the order of time in which they are received.* Urate 50 cents and Poudrate 40 cents per bushel, with contingent charges for bags or barrels, &c.

The company are daily preparing for use, during the warm, dry weather, the materials collected during the past winter, and will have several thousand bushels ready before the first of October next. The material is disinfected and rendered free from offensive smell, by a compound, every part of which is in itself a good manure.

The experience of the past and present years, 1838 and 1839, on Long Island, has satisfied many of the farmers that these manures have the *quickest* operation upon vegetable matter, producing *greater abundance*, and the *cheapest* of any manure they have ever tried.

Amended instructions for their use, the result of practical experience, will be furnished on application. The effect *of Poudrette* upon *Grape Vines and Morus Multicaulis* is beyond all comparison.

This company are erecting large and extensive works in the vicinity of the city of New York to prepare the manures, and farmers and gardeners may confidently rely on a supply.

Orders, *post paid*, directed to "*The New York Urate and Poudrate Company*," Box, No. 1211, Post Office, New York, or sent to the store of STILLWELL & DEY, No. 365 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, will be attended to.

The Company will be very much obliged to gentlemen who have used the manures, to give them a statement in writing what has been the result of their use and experiments in relation to them.

New York, August, 1839.

AGRICULTURAL AGENCY.

The subscriber having been removed from the Post Office, by the pleasure of the President, and left for the present without any means of support, has consented to resume the editorship of the "American Farmer," which he originally established, and the first periodical in America dedicated to the cause of Agriculture—That resource, though "better than nothing," being altogether inadequate, as an additional means of livelihood, he has formed with his son Theodoric Bland Skinner, a partnership to conduct an AGRICULTURAL AGENCY for the sale of real estate, and for the sale and purchase of domestic animals, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, especially of improved breed, Agricultural machinery and implements, seed grain, garden and field seed, and for sale of patent rights, *Morus Multicaulis Trees*, &c. He will only add, that they will strictly guard the interests of their employers;—and that through them no humbuggery shall be practised knowingly. Address, postage paid, to

Baltimore, August, 1839. J. S SKINNER.

Complete Garden and Horticultural Tool Chests,

From Sheffield, England; containing Garden Shears, improved Pruning Shears and Scissors, Pruning and Grafting Knives, Flower Gatherer, Garden, Dutch and Triangular Hoes, Saw, Spud, Weeding Hook, Garden Rake, Trowel Hammer and Garden Reel; comprising every useful implement necessary for the cultivation of the Flower Garden. For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

			From	To
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.			6 75	7 00
Pot, " " "			5 37	5 50
Beans, white, Foreign,		bushel	1 75	2 25
" " Domestic,		"	2 00	3 00
Beef, mess,		barrel		14 50
No. 1.		"		13 50
prime,		"		11 50
Beeswax, white,		pound		
yellow,		"	28	34
Cheese, new milk,		"	10	12
Bone Manure,		bushel		35
in casks,		"		40
Feathers, northern, geese,		pound		
southern, geese,		"	37	46
Flax, (American)		"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,		quintal	3 62	3 75
Bay, Chaleur,		"		
Haddock, new,		"	1 50	1 75
Mackerel, No. 1		barrel	13 50	14 00
No. 2,		"	11 00	11 50
No 3,		"	7 25	7 50
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.		"	6 00	6 50
Salmon, No. 1,		"	21 00	22 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,		"	6 62	6 75
Baltimore, Howard street,		"		6 37
Richmond canal,		"		6 25
Alexandria wharf,		"		6 25
Rye,		"		4 25
Meal, Indian, in bbls.		"	3 87	4 00
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,		bushel	95	98
southern flat, yellow,		"	89	91
white,		"	80	82
Rye, northern,		"		85
Barley, nominal		"		
Oats, northern, (prime)		"		
southern, new,		"	35	37
Hay, best English, per ton,			16 00	18 00
Eastern screwed,			12 50	13 50
Hops, 1st quality,		pound		16
2d quality,		"		14
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,		"	11	12
southern, 1st sort,		"	11	
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,		"	29	30
do. country do.		"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,		"	26	28
do. dry hides,		"	24	25
New York red, light,		"	22	24
Boston, do. slaughter,		"	22	23
Boston dry hides,		"	21	23
Lime, best sort,		cask	80	85
Molasses, New Orleans,		gallon	32	34
Sugar House,		"	50	58
Oil, Sperm, Spring and Summer,		"		
Winter,		"	1 20	1 25
Whale, refined,		"	50	60
Linseed, American,		"		
Neat's Foot,		"	95	1 00
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.			2 75	2 87
Pork, extra clear,		barrel		
clear,		"	20 00	23 00
Mess,		"	15 00	16 00
Prime,		"	12 00	
Seeds: Herd's Grass,		bushel	2 87	3 00
Red Top, southern,		"	90	1 00
northern,		"		1 50
Canary,		"		2 25
Hemp,		"	2 62	3 00
Flax,		"	1 25	1 50
Red Clover, northern,		pound	17	20
Southern Clover, none,		"		
Soap, American, No. 1,		"	6	7
" No. 2,		"	5	6
Tallow, tried,		"	12	13
Teazles, 1st sort,		pr M	3 00	3 50
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,		pound	60	65
American, full blood, washed,		"	55	60
do. 3-4ths do.		"	53	55
do. 1-2 do.		"	50	53
do. 1-4 and common,		"	45	50
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,		"	60	62
No. 1,		"	55	58
No. 2,		"	35	40
No. 3,		"	25	30

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	13	14
southern and western,	"	12	13
Pork, whole hogs,	"		
Poultry, per lb.,	"		
Butter, tub,	"	17	20
lump,	"	22	28
Eggs,	dozen	18	21
Potatoes,	bushel	50	75
Apples,	"	1 25	1 75
Cider,	dozen	1 75	2 00
refined,	barrel	5 00	3 00

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE RATTLESNAKE.

This snake is peculiar, we believe, to North America, and was formerly found in great abundance in New England—but since the country has become settled, and an exterminating war declared against these noxious reptiles, their numbers have rapidly decreased, and now they are seldom seen. They are still to be found, however, occasionally, we believe, in certain parts of every New England State, but generally confine themselves to rocky ledges in uncultivated tracks of the country. In Chester, N. H., there is a hill, which, from the great number of these reptiles which formerly made it their abiding place, is called Rattlesnake Hill. A few still remain—and they are sometimes killed in the adjoining towns, where they wander in search of water.

A number of years have passed away since an occurrence took place in the neighborhood of Chester, which caused considerable excitement in the neighboring families at the time, and which is still worth relating. Some men were employed in mowing a meadow, which was at a distance from any dwelling or road—and as the weather was sultry and many parts of the meadow covered with water, one of them, Mr R., thought proper to divest himself of nearly all his garments, and led the van of the mowers, *sans culiote!* It is well known that at this season, when droughth generally prevails, rattlesnakes are very apt to come down from the high lands in quest of water—and as Mr R. got at the end of his swarth, and stepped on the dry land, he placed his foot almost in contact with a huge rattlesnake, which raised its tail, gave it a few quick and sharp shakes, and sprung at the poor man just as he turned to flee, half frightened to death from the venomous reptile! His crooked, poisonous fangs entered the lower part of the only garment which Mr R. wore at the time—the texture of which was particularly strong, and they could not be easily disengaged. Mr R. gave a scream and started off on the full run, the snake sticking to him closer than a brother. He passed through woods, bushes, fields and pastures—he crossed fences, ditches, brooks and bogs—he jumped, hallooed, galloped, and screamed for aid—vainly trying to rid himself of his ugly-looking associate. At length, crazy with fear and fatigue, he reached the public road, and passed along it on the way to his dwelling house, at a rate which would have astonished the most desperate pedestrian—looking behind him at intervals, and screaming whenever he beheld the horrid appendage to his homespun linen garment. He passed several persons in the road, who were thunderstruck at the sight of the unfortunate man cutting up such antics, using such violent exercise—and exhibiting himself in dishabille, without regard to propriety or decency. Mr R. at length reached his own dwelling, a distance of three miles from the meadow—the door of which stood invitingly open, through which he rushed to the consternation of the women folks—having still attached to him the grim looking reptile. By this time he was completely overcome with terror, heat, and fatigue, and fell fainting on the floor. The poor rattlesnake, however, had got the worst of it, and had been threshed about at such an unmerciful rate, that his life, as well as a large portion of his tail, had departed, long before he reached the goal!

In the wild hills and trap ledges of Manchester, Saugus, and Lynn, in this State, this reptile is still seen and sometimes killed—of a size measuring five and six feet in length. It is also found among the hills in some portions of the interior—especially on Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke on the banks of the Connecticut.

In some parts of the western country the rattlesnakes abound, and grow to the size of six or seven feet. Hunters, or persons who have occasion to explore the woods, glens, and uncultivated spots, wear leggins, made of stout deer skins, to protect their legs against the bite of this venomous animal, as they seldom strike their enemy at a point higher than the calf of the leg. When a party of hunters or travellers find it necessary to encamp at night, they select a suitable spot, examine it thoroughly, that there are no holes or rocks about it, which may serve as abiding places to venomous reptiles, and then draw around them at a proper distance, a stout rope manufactured of horse hair, thus describing a sort of magic circle, in which the members of the party enter, throw themselves on the ground, and repose without any fear of intruders in the shape of snakes—as it is a singular fact that these creatures will never crawl over a rope made of horse hair! It is not uncommon to find on awaking from their slumbers in the morning, several of these unwelcome visitors handsomely coiled up at the distance of a few yards from the circle!

In the wild and mountainous region which separates Virginia from Kentucky, rattlesnakes are found in immense numbers—indeed, great precautions are necessary in travelling among these ledges, lest the traveller receives a fatal wound. In the latter part of September they may be seen crawling up by hundreds from the low lands, in search of winter quarters, and congregating by thousands in various spots, where they may be seen by whoever wishes to indulge in such a curiosity, sunning themselves on the precipices. This tract is also the favorite abode of the catamount, the panther of North America.

Rattlesnakes are also found in great abundance to the westward of the Rocky mountains. Cox, in his adventures on Columbia river, says, "these venomous reptiles are so numerous near the Grande Rapid, that they are seen in immense numbers basking in the sun, and crawling among the rocks. At one time, half a dozen of the party fired at a bunch lying under one rock, and killed and wounded thirtyseven."

In the western part of Michigan, and in the Wisconsin Territory, a species of rattlesnake abounds, which is smaller than the ordinary yellow rattlesnake, and of a hue almost approaching to black. They are very venomous. In some places on the banks of the Wisconsin, the numbers of these reptiles have decreased astonishingly since hogs have been introduced by the settlers. Swine declare war against them, never ending war, and hunt them for the sake of their carcasses, which they consider a great delicacy. And what is singular, the bite of the snake seems to have no injurious effect on the hog—who never hesitates about attacking one of the largest size. He seizes the reptile by the middle with his teeth, and maugre all his writhings, and hisses, and bites, soon tears him to pieces, and devours him with all the apparent relish of an epicure!

The largest rattlesnake of which we have any authentic intelligence, was one killed some years since on the shores of Apalachicola Bay, in Florida, which measured nine feet six inches in length and had twentyone rattles! He was a real old bruiser, with long and crooked fangs like a man's finger. A wound inflicted by such an animal must be very inconvenient, to say the least.—*Bost. Merc. Jour.*

The largest library in the country is the "Philadelphia Library," established by Franklin.—It contains about 50,000 volumes. Respectable strangers are permitted to use the books during the hours at which it is open, a privilege which may be improved to advantage, since there are many rare and valuable manuscripts connected with the times of the Revolution to be found here preserved. The second library in size is that of Harvard University, near Boston—containing about 40,000 volumes.

In Germantown the leaves of the mulberry are made into delicious pies! in another place they are dried as a substitute for Young Hyson tea! and it is said that a down-easter is making paper of them!

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Rake which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day, with ease, and do the work well. They are are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years supersede the use of the common hand rake. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States, where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 & 52 North Market Street.

July 10. t

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August 7.

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